IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 3, 4, 11, 16, 17, and 24, without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend Claims 1, 5-10, 12-14, 18-23, and 25-28 as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An information processing apparatus for demultiplexing and decoding a bitstream, which contains a plurality of object data and management information for managing each of the plurality of object data, and for reproducing the plurality of object data, comprising:

input means for inputting a plurality of coded object data and management information for managing each of the plurality of coded object data;

extraction means for extracting, from the management information, time limit information, which pertains to a time limit set for each of the plurality of coded object data, wherein the time limit information includes information of a period in which is information indicating when reproduction is permitted;

determination means for determining whether or not a time is within a time limit of reproduction, based on the time limit information, for each of the plurality of coded object data; and

control output means for controlling a reproduction process set for each of the plurality of object data based on the time limit information decoding a coded object

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data, and synthesizing and outputting the decoded object data, if it is determined that the time is within the time limit of reproduction.

Claim 2 (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the bitstream is an MPEG-4 bitstream, and the management information is IPMP information appended to the bitstream.

Claims 3 and 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the time limit information includes a total of browsing, display, or reproduction time since a first browsing, display, or reproduction time of contents of a bitstream of each of the plurality of coded object data.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the time limit information includes a predetermined time period since a first browsing, display, or reproduction time of contents of a bitstream of each of the plurality of coded object data.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the time limit information is a specific time.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein said ~~acquisition~~ determination means ~~acquires a~~ determines the time ~~as the time period information~~ from a timepiece that provides a standard time via a network.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein said ~~acquisition~~ determination means ~~acquires a~~ determines the time ~~as the time period information~~ from an internal timepiece of an external computer [[which]] that does not allow tampering.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim [[4]] 1, further comprising measurement means for measuring time, and wherein said ~~acquisition~~ determination means ~~acquires~~ determines the time from said measurement means.

Claim 11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said ~~control~~ output means updates the time limit information in accordance with reproduction of at least one of the plurality of coded object data.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said ~~control~~ output means updates the time limit information as new time limit information by counting an elapsed time during browsing, display, or reproduction of at

least one of the plurality of <u>coded</u> object data, and subtracting the counted elapsed time from the time limit information.

Claim 14 (currently amended): An information processing method for demultiplexing and decoding a bitstream, which contains a plurality of object data and management information for managing each of the plurality of object data, and reproducing the plurality of object data, comprising:

<u>an input step of inputting a plurality of coded object data and management information for managing each of the plurality of coded object data;</u>

an extraction step of extracting, from the management information, time limit information, which pertains to a time limit set for each of the plurality of <u>coded</u> object data, wherein the time limit information ~~includes information of a period in which~~ <u>is</u> <u>information indicating when</u> reproduction is permitted;

<u>a determination step of determining whether or not a time is within a time limit of reproduction, based on the time limit information, for each of the plurality of coded object data;</u> and

~~a control~~ <u>an output</u> step of ~~controlling a reproduction process set for each of the plurality of object data based on the time limit information~~ <u>decoding a coded object data, and synthesizing and outputting the decoded object data, if it is determined that the time is within the time limit of reproduction.</u>

Claim 15 (original): The method according to claim 14, wherein the bitstream is an MPEG-4 bitstream, and the management information is IPMP information appended to the bitstream.

Claims16 and 17 (canceled).

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method according to claim [[17]] 14, wherein the time limit information includes a total of browsing, display, or reproduction time since a first browsing, display, or reproduction time of contents of a bitstream of each of the plurality of coded object data.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The method according to claim [[17]] 14, wherein the time limit information includes a predetermined time period since a first browsing, display, or reproduction time of contents of a bitstream of each of the plurality of coded object data.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The method according to claim [[17]] 14, wherein the time limit information is a specific time.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The method according to claim [[17]] 14, wherein the acquisition determination step includes acquiring a determining the time as the time period information from a timepiece that provides a standard time via a network.

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Claim 22 (currently amended): The method according to claim [[17]] 14, wherein the ~~acquisition~~ determination step includes ~~acquiring a~~ determining the time ~~as the time period information~~ from an internal timepiece of an external computer [[which]] that does not allow tampering.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The method according to claim [[17]] 14, further comprising a measurement step of measuring time, and wherein the ~~acquisition~~ determination step includes ~~acquiring~~ determining the time from the measurement step.

Claim 24 (canceled).

Claim 25 (currently amended): The method according to claim 14, wherein the ~~control~~ output step includes ~~updating~~ outputting the time limit information in accordance with reproduction of at least one of the plurality of coded object data.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The method according to claim 25, wherein the ~~control~~ output step includes updating the time limit information as new time limit information by counting an elapsed time during browsing, display, or reproduction of at least one of the plurality of coded object data, and subtracting the counted elapsed time from the time limit information.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for implementing an information processing method for demultiplexing and decoding a bitstream, which contains a plurality of object data and management information for managing each of the plurality of object data, and ~~for~~ reproducing the plurality of object data, wherein the program comprises:

code of an input step of inputting a plurality of coded object data and management information for managing each of the plurality of coded object data;

code of an extraction step of extracting, from the management information, time limit information, which pertains to a time limit set for each of the plurality of coded object data, wherein the time limit information ~~includes information of a period in which~~ is information indicating when reproduction is permitted;

code of a determination step of determining whether or not a time is within a time limit of reproduction, based on the time limit information, for each of the plurality of coded object data; and

code of ~~a control~~ an output step of ~~controlling a reproduction process set for each of the plurality of object data based on the time limit information~~ decoding a coded object data, and synthesizing and outputting the decoded object data, if it is determined that the time is within the time limit of reproduction.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A computer-implemented information processing method, comprising the steps of:

inputting a bitstream, which contains ~~at least one~~ a plurality of encoded

object data, and management information for managing the ~~at least one~~ plurality of encoded

object data;

demultiplexing the bitstream into at least one encoded object data;

extracting, from the management information, time limit information, which

pertains to a time limit set for each of the at least one encoded object data, wherein the time

limit information is information indicating when reproduction is permitted;

determining whether of not a time is within a time limit of reproduction,

based on the time limit information, for each of the at least one encoded object data; and

~~controlling a reproduction process of the demultiplexed at least one object~~

~~data based on the extracted time limit information~~ decoding an encoded object data, and

synthesizing and outputting the decoded object data, if it is determined that the time is

within the time limit of reproduction.